

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Office Action dated August 8, 2006 (the "Office Action").

Claims 21-32 are pending in the application.

Applicant is grateful to the Examiner for the telephone conversation on November 3, 2006 regarding the pending Office Action. As discussed during that conversation, the Office Action includes rejections for claims 1-20. However, the rejections appear to have resulted from a clerical error, since claims 1-20 were canceled in the Preliminary Amendment that was filed with the present application on April 2, 2004. The pending rejections thus appear to be moot, since they address only previously canceled claims.

New claims 21-32 were added in the Preliminary Amendment. These claims are now pending in the application. Since the Office Action does not address claims 21-32, the pending claims are not under rejection.


The Examiner has indicated that subsequent examination will address pending claims 21-32, and that a notice of allowance or other Office action, as warranted, will be issued following the review of the pending claims. The Examiner invited Applicant to submit this written response so that the application may be re-docketed for examination.

Applicant understands that the foregoing remarks will be considered responsive to the pending Office Action. If this understanding is in error, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number provided below.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that all claims are now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia, 22313-1450, on November 6, 2006.



Attorney for Applicant

2006 Nov 6

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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